



**The Green Flash**

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### **Reusable Cups Coming to All Facilities Maintenance Associates!**

Did you know that one of the easiest ways to reduce waste is to eliminate the use of paper and styrofoam cups? For example, if every Starbucks customer used a reusable coffee thermos, we could save **1,181,600 tons of wood, 2,040,061,237 pounds of carbon dioxide, and 4,441,093,624 gallons of water every year!**

With that in mind, the Sustainability Team is proud to announce that each HDS Facilities Maintenance Associate will soon receive an insulated, reusable cup, ideal for hot or cold beverages. The cups are made of corn "all natural" plastic, where corn, not petroleum, is the main ingredient. Derived from renewable resources, corn plastics require 20 to 50 less fossil fuel and take just 45 days to bio-degrade in a landfill!

The new cups feature both the HD Supply and ideallygreen logos. The cups come complete with a lid and can be put in a microwave, although hand-washing is recommended. The cups begin shipping this week, so each Associate should have a cup in their hands shortly! Please note that:

- Since the cups are identical, it may be a good idea to write your name somewhere on it;
- Although the cups can be used as a travel cup, Associates are being asked to keep their cups at work;
- As one of the goals of the Sustainability Team is to phase out the use of disposable cups across the business, extra ideallygreen cups will be provided at each location for meetings/etc.



### **New Customer Catalog**

Facilities Maintenance has launched a new customer catalog, **Environmentally Preferable Product Choices**. The catalog highlights our current V57 environmentally preferable product selections. The products are categorized into five key areas: **Energy Efficiency, Water Conservation, Indoor Environmental Quality, Waste Reduction and Hazardous Material Disposal**. The new ideallygreen logo is also introduced in the catalog. The logo will be used to identify eco-friendly

products in all upcoming catalogs, including V58 in spring 2008. The catalog is being made available to our Sales team to share with customers. In January 2008 an updated catalog showcasing our V58 assortment with more products will be released.

### **Did you know?**

In the United States, buildings account for:

- 36 percent of energy consumption & 65 percent of electricity consumption;
- 30 percent of greenhouse gas emissions & 30 percent of raw materials use;
- 30 percent of waste output & 12 percent of potable water consumption;

Source: *thegreenoffice.com*

*The Green Flash is produced by the HD Supply Facilities Maintenance Sustainability Team. For questions or to submit an idea, click [here](#).*